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## BOOK REVIEWS.

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ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE LAWYER. By Gleason L. Archer, LL.B. Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1910, pp. 367.

The real scope of this book is not indicated by its title. Even the statement of the author in the preface that, "This volume enters into every question of professional deportment that can ordinarily confront the lawyer," does not cover all the subjects discussed. Not an inconsiderable portion of the book is devoted to giving advice and suggestions to young lawyers particularly with reference to preparation for entering the profession, choice of location, situation of office and furnishing same, proper clothing to be worn and even a word or two as to the opening and closing of the office door and windows and the regulation of the air supply.

Perhaps not all of the readers will agree with the author as to the propriety of some of the advice. For instance on page 53 it is said: "If the occupant's library is small, he should arrange what books he has in the most imposing array possible. \* \* \* Shelf fillers are quite as serviceable when the object is to fill up shelf space. Legislative reports, and especially the annuals containing the newly enacted statutes can be procured at a slight expense or in many cases free of charge. All such may properly be found in a lawyer's library. *Law books are all alike to the ordinary client, so far as his estimate of value is concerned.*" [Italics ours.] This would seem rather out of place in a book bearing the above title.

The foregoing, however, is exceptional. In the main the advice is good, and the treatment of many of the troublesome problems of legal ethics is excellent. The author frequently refers to and quotes from the American Bar Association Canons of Ethics and Hoffman's Fifty Resolutions in regard to Professional Deportment, which are printed in full in the Appendix. In the Appendix there is also found a schedule of minimum legal fees, which may or may not be found helpful.

R. W. A.

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THE EARLY COURTS OF PENNSYLVANIA. By William H. Loyd, of the Philadelphia Bar; Gowen Fellow in the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania. Boston: The Boston Book Company, 1910, pp. viii, 281.

This is the second volume of the University of Pennsylvania Law School Series, a series of works on legal subjects, prepared by members of the faculty, fellows, and graduate students in the Law School, and published by authority of the faculty.

Mr. Loyd has made a careful examination of the historical material at his command, and has produced a very readable (one might almost say entertaining) account of the genesis and growth of the peculiar judicial system which now exists in Pennsylvania. Perhaps the most interesting chapter is that devoted to the discussion of "Equity in Pennsylvania." In view of the

general impression (shared very largely by Pennsylvania lawyers) that there never was, is not, and never will be, any chancery court there, and that equity jurisdiction is practically non-existent in that benighted Commonwealth, one might well expect this chapter to be about as extensive as the classic chapter on "Snakes in Ireland." But the author presents an illuminating and very interesting account of the establishment of the chancery court in Pennsylvania, showing equity's early struggles against the distrust and suspicion of the people and the legislature, the general recognition of the need of a chancery court, its establishment in 1720, the political strife which followed, and the final abandonment of the court in 1738, which was caused, in the words of Horace Binney (quoted by Mr. Loyd on page 188) by the fact that Pennsylvania's "governors and representatives could not agree by whom the office of chancellor should be held." Since that time Pennsylvania has struggled to bake equitable loaves in legal pans, with a degree of success or failure, the opinion as to which varies somewhat according to the domicile of the observer. From time to time the legislature has conferred various chunks of chancery jurisdiction upon the common-law courts, but the development of such jurisdiction has of course been fragmentary, and there are still many serious gaps in the structure of adjective law. To bridge these obvious chasms, the courts have summoned up from the dead past many common-law forms of action long unused and forgotten, and have succeeded, by adding a fiction here and a perversion there, in molding these venerable legal fossils into equitable remedies. Thus it happens that the Pennsylvania reports are full of so many actions, whose very names are barely known to modern lawyers (outside of Pennsylvania) and whose purpose and effect would be just as strange to the old common lawyers who used to know them by name.

The other chapters of the book are less interesting to the general reader, though obviously of interest and value to the historian and to the Pennsylvania lawyer. On the whole, the book is an exceedingly well-done and interesting treatment of a rather unpromising subject.